

DARUL IFTAA

2017 | 1438 REPORT



BY: MUFTI EBRAHIM DESAI (HAFIDHAHULLAH)



*In the Name of Allah,
The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful.*

الحمد لله وكفى والصلاة والسلام على عباده الذين اصطفى

**Most Respected Muftiyaan, Ulama, and Honourable Guests,
Assalaamu Alaykum Warahmatullahi Wa Barakatuh,**

At the outset, I express my heartfelt gratitude to every one of you for gracing this Iftaa Graduation Jalsa with your presence. You have taken out your most valuable time to be with us and especially with our esteemed guests; Hadhrat Moulana Suleman Choksi Sahib and Hadhrat Mufti Muhammad Saeed Motara Sahib [Madda Dhilluhuma].

The Ulama that are graduating are all foreigners. Some are from USA, UK, Mauritius, Zambia, Malawi, Netherlands and Wales.

While some students from Zambia have the privilege of the presence of their parent's here, most of them do not have their close family members to share their joy and happiness of their Graduation. It is the Ulama family like you and the compassionate people of Sherwood that serve to be the family of these young, blossoming, and promising Ulama and Muftis.

May Allah reward you abundantly for your presence. Aameen.

Respected Ulama, Alhamdulillah it is only through the grace of Almighty Allah that we are having our Fourth Graduation Jalsa.

We have been nurtured and trained to think that a person serving the Deen of Allah is an employee in the palace of Allah. It is the grace of Allah that He employs an employee in His palace.

Allah employed us to serve Ilme Deen out of His infinite grace and mercy and choice. It is not because of our academic abilities and capabilities that we are serving the Deen of Allah.

Almighty Allah chooses whoever He wants and He can snatch away this service from whoever He wants. Make Dua Allah keep us engaged in serving His Deen till the last breath of our lives and Allah protect us from doing anything that causes us to be deprived of serving His Deen. Aameen.

Respected Ulama, I feel ashamed to mention the services of the Darul Iftaa. Firstly, they are very few in relation to the great Khidmaat conducted by yourselves. Secondly, Riya and Sum'a deletes whatever little we may have.

However, I am advised by my respected teacher Hadhrat Moulana Suleman Choksi Sahib Madda Zilluhu to present the Khidmaat of the Darul Iftaa as Tahdees bin Ni'mah and with the intention of seeking suggestions and Islaah from my learned colleagues.

It is with this intention I present a brief report of the services of the Darul Iftaa.

THE DARUL IFTAA HAS SIX DEPARTMENTS:

1. *Iftaa Training.*
2. *Issuing Fatawa.*
3. *Mediation and Arbitration.*
4. *Islamic Economics.*
5. *Faskhun Nikah.*
6. *Publications.*

Alhamdulillah, this year 15 Ulama will be graduating. Unfortunately, some Ulama graduates are not present in this Jalsa due to Visa related issues.

The name of the graduating students are:

1. Mufti Safwaan Ibrahim – Limbe, Malawi
Graduate of Madrasa Arabia Islamia (Azaadville) – 2015

2. Mufti Huzaifah Deedat – Lusaka, Zambia
Graduate of Jamiah Islaamiyyah – 2015

3. Mufti Muadh Chati – Blackburn, UK
Graduate of Jamiatul Ilm Wal Huda, Blackburn – 2015

4. Mufti Imran Faruk – Lusaka, Zambia
Graduate of Jamiah Islaamiyyah – 2015

5. Mufti Abdullah Aijaz – Baltimore, USA
Graduate of Madrasa Arabia Islamia (Azaadville) – 2014

6. Mufti Jibrán Kadarkhan – Mauritius
Graduate of Darul Uloom Zakariyyah – 2015

7. Mufti Syed Haneef – New York, USA
Graduate of Madrasa Inamiyyah Camperdown – 2014

8. Mufti Bilal Issak – Leicester, UK
Graduate of Darul Uloom Leicester – 2015

9. Mufti Hafeezur Rahman – Netherlands
Graduate of Jamiatul Ilm Wal Huda, Blackburn – 2014

10. Mufti Ahmad Jafari – Atlanta, GA, USA
Graduate of Darul Uloom Canada – 2012

11. Mufti Zakir Husein – Michigan, USA
Graduate of Darul Uloom Zakariyyah – 2014

12. Mufti Abdullah Ghadai – Michigan, USA
Graduate of Jamiah Madinatul Ilm, Detroit – 2014

13. Moulana Saad Haque – (First Year Student) – New Jersey, USA
Graduate of Darul Uloom New York – 2016

14. Moulana Ridwaan Kasak – (First Year Student) – Katete, Zambia
Graduate of Madrasa Arabia Islamia (Azaadville) – 2016

15. Moulana Ridhwan ur Rahman – (First Year Student) – Wales, UK
Graduate of Jamiatul Ilm Wal Huda, Blackburn – 2015

There are some students who will receive conditional certificates. They will qualify upon fulfilling the conditions presented to them.

Make Duaa Allah accept the sacrifices of the young Ulama and Allah accept each one to serve His Deen. Aameen.

The enrolment for the next batch of students is closed. The places for the next 2 years are full and unfortunately we cannot accept any more applicants.

The Darul Iftaa is part of ATII (Association of Traditional Islamic Institutes).

We hope and make Duaa the coming students will not have difficulty in obtaining their Visas. May Allah accept the effort and sacrifices of the administration of ATTI and may Allah keep the political doors of serving Deen open.

**The Nisaab (Syllabus) of the Darul Iftaa is on our website.
However, apart from the Duroos:**

- Each student is required to answer 400 Fatawa over two years. These are questions that come from the Ask Imam, Darul Iftaa, and Ideal Woman websites.
- Each student is required to make Mutala'ah of the 10 volumes of Ahsanul Fatawa in the first year and 25 volumes of Fatawa Mahmudiyah in the second year.
- Each student has a chance to actively take part in the mediation and arbitration cases of the Darul Iftaa.
- Each student has an opportunity to attend the Faskhun Nikah cases at our local Jamiatul Ulama.
- The progress of each student is tracked through a progress book that is checked and signed regularly.

Alhamdulillah, the students have worked very hard and I have often witnessed them staying awake until past midnight in research and studies. I am satisfied that each student has fulfilled his responsibility to the best of his ability.

I take this opportunity to thank Muhtaram Mufti Husain Kadodia Sahib for teaching the students and for being a great support for them in their studies. I have observed the free relationship the students have with Mufti Husain Sahib that enables them to benefit from his exceptional knowledge in Fiqh.

May Allah accept the sacrifices of Mufti Husain Kadodia and may Allah grant him Barakah in all endeavours of his life.

ISSUING FATAWA:

The Darul Iftaa receives its queries through the AskImam website. Alhamdulillah, with the grace of Allah, this website serves 123 countries. There are approx. 37,986 Fatawa published. This website has an average of 80,000 hits per day. Unfortunately, we have lost many Fatawa through the server migration process.

We intend upgrading the website and synchronising the various Fatawa of this site. We have a website dedicated for women only. Alhamdulillah, we receive many queries through this website. Thus far we have answered approx. 2,500 Fatawa from this website.

MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION:

The Mediation/Arbitration Council of the Darul Iftaa receives many requests for mediation and arbitration.

We have observed that the most challenging aspect is compliance with the law. Alhamdulillah, we dealt with many cases which were represented by Attorneys, Advocates and even Senior Councils and even issued decrees which were accepted by them without reservations.

On average, we deal with one major case per month due to the time required in the Admin procedure and research. We do not charge for these services. However, if the Darul Iftaa requires professional services for example; legal counsel or accountants etc. to arrive at its decree, we obtain prior consent from the disputing parties to share the costs. The terms and conditions of mediation/arbitration are on our website.

ISLAMIC ECONOMICS:

One of the objectives of the Darul Iftaa is correcting dealings صحيح معاملات . At least 30% of the queries are related to business and economics. Mufti Safwaan Ibrahim has compiled a book on business related queries and answers issued from the Darul Iftaa.

The Darul Iftaa was also concerned about the financial support for the Ulama fraternity. We got the idea from Hazrat Moulana Saeed Ahmed Buzrug Sahib; the former principal of Dhabel. He established a fund for the widows of the Ulama. Alhamdulillah, my son; Mufti Ismail with a group of experts have spent much time in designing the Ulama retirement fund. We have forwarded the contact details for the fund to the Ulama on our various forums.

The Darul Iftaa has designed the Al Mabroor investment scheme, property investment scheme and cattle investment scheme. We simply design the scheme and do not involve ourselves in the business of the schemes. Whoever wishes to invest in the scheme may do so at their own risk.

At the moment, my friend; Advocate Mufti Emraan Vawda Sahib is conducting a complete audit of the fund.

The Darul Iftaa is considering devising a waqf fund for the benefit of the widows and dependants of the Ulama. We will inform the Ulama on the progress.

FASKH-E-NIKAH:

The Darul Iftaa conducts the Faskhe-e-Nikah for the Jamiat. الحيلة الناجزة of Hadhrat Moulana Ashraf Ali Thanwi (Rahmatullah Alayh) is part of our syllabus.

We felt there was a great need to inform the public on the recourse women have in abusive marriages and the procedure to relieve women from such abuses. We therefore translated the book and we are adding the procedures and effective measures adopted by the Jamiat in attending to such applications. This book, we hope will serve to allay misconceptions about the Judicial Committee of the Jamiats in relieving oppressed and abused women in marriages.

PUBLICATIONS:

Alhamdulillah, 3 volumes of Contemporary Fatawa are published. Insha'Allah, some copies will be distributed to the Ulama as a gift from the Darul Iftaa. If you did not receive your set of contemporary Fatawa, you may contact us after Ramadhan when we hope to receive the full shipment.

It is part of the graduation process that each student is required to present a thesis. The following theses are prepared by the following students and they will be uploaded on the Darul Iftaa website.

1. أصول الإفتاء وآدابه لمفتي تقي عثمانى مع شرح عقود رسم المفتي لابن عابدين الشامي

Mufti Muaadh – "Usul Al Ifta Wa Adabuhu; This is a thesis of 400 pages with a complete history of the background of the Fuqaha and referring to the principles of Iftaa from the Hanafi Madh-hab. It also refers to the biography of the Fuqaha and their geographical backgrounds.

2. تعليم الحق مع التخریج

Mufti Huzaifah – Ta'leemul Haq with Takhreej. This is still under review. 300 pages.

3. إسعاد العواجز بمسائل قنوت النوازل

Mufti Abdulllah – The Fiqh of Qunut an-Nazilah: A Detailed Study. 100 pages. We have received many requests from Ulama enquiring on various issues of Qunut An Nazilah.

4. Mufti Safwaan – Compilation of pertinent and common business masaa'il answered by the Darul Iftaa. 200 Pages.

5. الخلاصة المعاصرة لبحوث في قضايا فقهية معاصرة

Mufti Imraan – Summary of Contemporary Juristic Resolutions of Mufti Taqi Uthmani. Over 100 pages.

6. كشف الغناء عن وصف الغناء

Mufti Hanif – Addressing the Musical Conundrum: This is a summarised version from Ahkamul Qur'aan of Mufti Shafi Sahib RA. We are aware of the fitnah of nash-eeds with musical backgrounds. 105 pages.

7. Mufti Jibran – The Darul Iftaa often receives Hadith related questions especially from Ulama. We have decided to compile our Hadith answers for the benefit of the Ulama. 200 Pages.

PAST STUDENTS & AFFILIATE WEBSITES:

The past students of the Darul Iftaa refer to the Darul Iftaa on an ongoing basis and seek the counsel and advice from the Darul Iftaa. The graduating students are encouraged to establish their own websites to fulfil the vacuum of correct Islamic guidance in the internet world. Thus, the Darul Iftaa currently has 20 affiliate websites in 14 countries (South Africa, Botswana, Zambia, Mozambique, Mauritius, United Kingdom, Kazakhstan, Russia, Australia, Netherlands, Jamaica, Trinidad, USA and Canada). Each website serves the function of a Darul Iftaa.

PATRON & GRATITUDE:

Darul Iftaa Mahmudiyyah is named after our Shaykh – Faqeehul-Ummah; Hazrat Mufti Mahmood Hasan Gangohi Rahmatullahi Alaih. We take constant guidance from my beloved Ustadh; Hazrat Mufti Ahmed Khanpuri Sahib Madda Dhilluhu and Hazrat Moulana Suleman Choksi Sahib Madda Dhilluhu.

We attribute the khidmaat of the Darul Iftaa to my Respected Shaykh and Beloved Asatizah.

It is not possible for me to enumerate the names of the many people that have assisted the Darul Iftaa in so many ways.

Some have assisted financially, some with maintenance of the Darul Iftaa, some have assisted with food and groceries. Indeed, Mufti Hashim Amod, my beloved neighbor; Rashid Ahmed Dockrat, Dr. Farook Hafejee and Dr. Yunus Desai have been a great source of support for the Darul Iftaa and the students of the Darul Iftaa.

May Allah reward everyone who has assisted the Darul Iftaa and may Allah preserve this Khidmat for your Aakhirah. Aameen.

A very special Shukriyyah to the Imam and trustees of Masjidus Saliheen, Moulana Ahmed Chohan Sahib, Hafez Suleman Makada, Hafez Shakir Desai, and Prof Yusuf Randeree and the many silent soldiers behind them in availing the facilities of this Masjid and arranging the food for our esteemed Ulama.

In conclusion, a very special and heartfelt shukriya to Hazrat Moulana Suleman Choksi Sahib and Hazrat Mufti Muhammad Saeed Motara Sahib for gracing our Jalsa with your presence and advises. We do not have words to express the deep feeling of appreciation we have for you coming over and being a means of support and encouragement for us at the Darul Iftaa and in general, the Ulama of Natal.

I humbly request all my beloved Ulama for your pious duaas.
Wassalaamu Alaykum wa rahmatullahi wa barakaatuh.



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